

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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47

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 MC-02

OMB-01 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03

DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10

DRC-01 SAM-01 /106 W

----- 018222

O R 312145Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2105

INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HGTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 0638

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS BL

SUBJ: GOB REQUEST FOR SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION

1. WHILE I APPRECIATE FAVORABLE WASHINGTON RESPONSE TO GOB REQUEST FOR CASH PURCHASE OF SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION, I EARNESTLY ASK FOR PROMPT RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION THAT GOB PICK UP CARGO IN CANAL ZONE. I RECOMMEND THAT OFFICIAL USE AIRLIFT BE AUTHORIZED TO TRANSPORT AMMUNITION IMMEDIATELY TO LA PAZ IN ORDER FOR US TO SHOW OUR RESPONSIVENESS TO PRESIDENT BANZER'S REQUEST MADE URGENTLY TO U.S. MILGP EVENING JANUARY 28. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL BE ANY PUBLICITY HERE NOR CAN I UNDERSTAND HOW THERE WOULD BE ANY IN THE U.S. SURROUNDING THE DELIVERY TO LA PAZ OF THE CARGO BY US AIRCRAFT. AS HAS BEEN REPORTED IN OTHER TELEGRAMS, THE BLOCKADE OF ROADS TO COVFEBANAA WERE LIFTED ON JAN 30. ACCORDINGLY DELIVERY OF AMMUNITION CANNOT IN THE IMMEDIATE SENSE BE ATTRIBUTED TO OUR SUPPORT FOR A GOVERNMENT "REPRESSION" OF THE CAMPESINOS PROTESTING GOB ECONOMIC POLICIES. FOR US TO GO BACK NOW TO THE GOB AND TO SAY THAT THEY MUST MOUNT AN AIRLIFT TO PANAMA AND BACK WOULD EXPOSE US TO SEVERE CRITICISM WITHIN THE GROUP SUPPORTING PRESIDENT BANZER AND FROM HIM PERSONALLY.

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2. AS DEPT AWARE, PRESIDENT HAS EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS ABOUT

DELAYS IN DELIVERIES UNDER MAP PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.WE HAVE SENT
SEPARATE MESSAGE ASKING FOR EXPEDITIOUS TREATMENT OF CERTAIN MILITARY
EQUIPMENT TO MEET UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED BEFORE ON THE EQUIPING
OF THE TIPO REGIMENTS. THIS TOO, I WOULD HOPE, WILL MEET WITH
FAVORABLE AND EFFECTIVE WASHINGTON RESPONSE.

3. I HAVE BEEN TOLD INFORMALLY THAT I MAY BE CALLED PROMPTLY
FOR DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT BANZER OF OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS AND HIS REQUESTS FOR EMERGENCY MILITARY ASSISTANCE.
MAY I HAVE IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME A FAVORABLE DECISION
ON PROVIDING A US AIRLIFT FOR THE AMMUNITION FROM THE CANAL ZONE
TO LA PAZ?
STEDMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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